

APPLICANT FEEDBACK SUMMARY

2013 AmeriCorps State and National Grant Competition

Legal Applicant: Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest

Application ID: 13ND146508

Program Name: Jesuit Volunteer Corps (JVC) Northwest

For the purpose of enhancing our programs by improving the quality and quantity of applications to the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), we are providing specific feedback regarding the strengths and weaknesses of this application. These comments are not meant to represent a comprehensive assessment; rather the analysis represents those elements that had the greatest bearing on the rating of the application. Please note that this feedback consists of summary comments from more than one reviewer. For this reason, some of the comments may seem to be inconsistent or contradictory. Comments are not representative of all of the information used in the final funding decision.

Reviewers' Summary Comments:

- (+) The applicant provides specific data from numerous sources to support all five areas as being economically challenged citing homelessness rates, FBI crime reports, and poverty rates.
- (+) The applicant provides specific details of the roles AmeriCorps members will have in capacity building, education, and health.
- (+) The applicant offers strong evidence that this community has been persistently economically disadvantaged, citing long-term census data and other research.
- (+) The applicant explains that area schools have difficulty recruiting educators and volunteers with strong credentials, but utilizing AmeriCorps members will allow them to place qualified and well-trained people in key position regarding capacity building, education and health.
- (+) The applicant's proposed interventions are both evidence-based from work on the current grant program, and evidence-informed from various research sources. For Capacity Building, the applicant will use an assessment tool based on the McKinsey Capacity Assessment Grid (evidence-informed from the Venture Philanthropy Partner's 2001 Report "Effective Capacity Building in Nonprofit Organizations"). For Education, the applicant cites the value of a lower student-to-adult ratio in improving the learning environment (evidence-based from a principal at one of the partner schools), and the applicant also cites the effect of frequent contacts with positive adult role models to improved academic outcomes (evidence-informed from the Payne 2008, Nine Effective Practices report).
- (+) For Healthy Futures, the applicant cites the value of engaging clients in their language of origin, where they live, and in helping them navigate healthcare processes (evidence-informed from the current grant program), and the applicant also cites the value of socio-cultural competence, community outreach and navigation skills for economically disadvantaged clients (evidence-informed from The Economic and Social Research Institute (2006).
- (-) The applicant is unclear whether they are describing the activities and roles of current Members or of proposed

AmeriCorps members.

(-) The applicant has not developed all of their outcome criteria.